

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 12761 241311Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 241253Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1612

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 12761

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS PFOR ET US

SUBJ: GENERAL AMAN'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REFS: (A) STATE 222159 (NOTAL)

(B) ADDIS 12337

(C) ADDIS 12623 (NOTAL)

1. VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE MULATU HAS INFORMED MAAG OFFICER THAT GENERAL AMAN WAS VERY ANGRY IN A MEETING THIS MORNING BECAUSE HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A REPLY TO HIS OCTOBER 7 MESSAGE TO THE SECRETARY (REFTEL A). MULATU SAID GENERAL AMAN ALSO FEELS STRONGLY THAT AS HEAD OF STATE HE SHOULD RECEIVE A RESPONSE FROM THE SECRETARY RATHER THAN FROM UNDER SECRETARY SISCO.

2. COMMENT. WE HAVE REPORTED VARIOUS INDICATIONS THAT THE AFCC IS WEIGHING THE BASIC MILITARY PROCUREMENT AND FOREIGN POLICY OPTIONS OPEN TO ETHIOPIA AT PRESENT. GENERAL AMAN'S ANGER PROBABLY REFLECTS NOT ONLY THE NEED FOR A REPLY IN THIS CONTEXT BUT ALSO HIS OWN PREFERENCE THAT ETHIOPIA CONTINUE TO REPLY FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE ON THE US ALONE. THE MILITARY RADICALS MAY BE PUSHING PARTICULARLY HARD AT PRESENT FOR THE SOVIET OPTION (CF. REFTEL C). WE KNOW THEY HAVE BEEN CITING THE CONTINUING ABSENCE OF AN AMERICAN AMBASSADOR
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AS EVIDENCE OF USG PARTIALITY TO THE OLD ORDER.

WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: shawdg
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